

wherein R is ~~as defined above~~ C₄₋₃₀ linear or branched acyl, which may be substituted;[[, and]]

(ii) detecting inhibition of Akt activity or inhibition of the survival signaling pathway in which Akt is involved in the cells; and (iii) identifying the substance as one that inhibits acylated homoserine lactone.

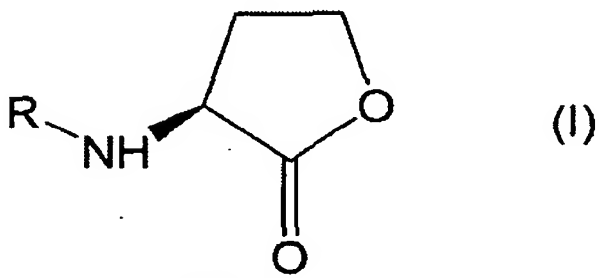
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein inhibition of Akt activity ~~the survival signaling pathway in which Akt is involved~~ is detected by detecting apoptosis.

6. (Withdrawn) A substance inhibiting acylated homoserine lactone, which is identified by the screening method of claim 4.

7. (Withdrawn) An acylated homoserine lactone inhibitor, which is identified by the screening method of claim 4.

8. (Withdrawn) A kit for using in the screening method of claim 4, comprising the following elements:

a) an acylated homoserine lactone represented by formula I:



wherein R is as defined above,